

Message Text

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42

ACTION INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8875

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, EC, PINR

SUBJECT: IV GROUP SEMINAR: THE MAKING OF FOREIGN POLICY

REF: STATE 240710, QUITO 9247

FOR: INR/OIL/B/ECUD

1. POST NOMINATES THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES FOR MAKING
OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY SEMINAR.

2. DR. BLASCO PENAHERRERA, INFLUENTIAL LEADER IN THE
COMMUNICATIONS FIELD. PRESENTLY HOLDS PROMINENT POSITIONS
IN TWO MAJOR MEDIA OUTLETS: DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF "VISTAZO"
MAGAZINE, WITH THE HIGHEST CIRCULATION IN THE NATION, AND
NEWS DIRECTOR OF TV CHANNEL 8, WITH ONE OF THE LARGEST
AUDIENCES.

3. BIO-DATA: BORN IN QUITO, FEBRUARY 22, 1934. MARRIED,
THREE CHILDREN. EDUCATION: LAWYER'S DEGREE FROM CENTRAL
UNIVERSITY, QUITO, 1962. PUBLICATIONS: "THE CITY-MUNICIPAL
COUNCIL" (THESIS). TRAVEL: UNITED STATES, EUROPE, MEXICO,
CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN. SLIGHT KNOWLEDGE OF ENGLISH.
JUSTIFICATION: DESPITE HIS RELATIVE YOUTH (42),
DR. PENAHERRERA HAS HELD A NUMBER OF KEY POSITIONS
IN PAST CIVILIAN GOVERNMENTS IN ECUADOR, INCLUDING
MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT, PRESIDENT OF THE PLANNING
BOARD, UNDER-SECRETARY OF EDUCATION, DIRECTOR OF THE
JOURNALISM SCHOOL, CENTRAL UNIVERSITY. DURING THE
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PERIOD 1970-73 HE WORKED FOR THE ANDEAN DEVELOPMENT

CORPORATION ASSIGNED TO VENEZUELA AND CHILE. HE IS CONSIDERED A PRIME OPINION LEADER AT THIS TIME AND WITH THE EVENTUAL RETURN OF A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT MAY WELL PLAY A MUCH MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN ECUADOR'S FUTURE.

4. SECOND CANDIDATE IS ROQUE CANADAS, ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS IN THE REALM OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS. ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS ARE, IN TURN, THE MOST IMPORTANT AREA OF U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST IN ECUADOR. CANADAS IS IN HIS MIDDLE FORTIES AND IS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. IT CAN BE ASSUMED THAT ROQUE CANADAS HAS NOT REACHED THE PEAK OF HIS CAREER, AND THAT IN DUE COURSE WE MAY EXPECT THAT HE WILL BE APPOINTED TO AMBASSADORIAL POSITIONS AND POSSIBLY EVEN REACH THE LEVEL OF SUBSECRETARY AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. IT WOULD BE GREATLY TO POST ADVANTAGE TO HAVE CANADAS EXPOSED, IN SEMINAR-TYPE SESSIONS, TO ELEMENTS OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY. CANADAS IS BRIGHT AND QUICK, AND WILL, NO DOUBT, BE THINKING THROUGHOUT THE SEMINAR, OF

THE CONNECTION BETWEEN HIS OWN COUNTRY'S INTERESTS AND U.S. INTERESTS. IN A SEMINAR SITUATION, WE BELIEVE HE WOULD BE BOTH AN ENGAGING AS WELL AS A PERCEPTIVE PARTICIPANT--NOT MERELY AN OBSERVER. CANADAS' COMMAND OF ENGLISH IS VERY GOOD.

5. THIRD CANDIDATE IS MARCELO HERVAS, A YOUNG OFFICER IN HIS EARLY THIRTIES, WHO HAS RISEN VERY RAPIDLY THROUGH THE RANKS OF THE ECUADOREAN FOREIGN MINISTRY. HE IS CURRENTLY SERVING AS ACTING DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY. A LAWYER BY TRAINING, HIS SPECIALTY IS LEGAL AND TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY AFFAIRS. THE EMBASSY HAS DEALT FREQUENTLY WITH HIM ON MATTERS INVOLVING LAW OF THE SEA AND FISHING DISPUTES, AND HAS FOUND HIM TO BE VERY FORTHCOMING AND HELPFUL. HE IS FRIENDLY TOWARDS AMERICANS, AND IS APPARENTLY ONE OF THOSE IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WHO WISHES TO SEE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ECUADOR RESUME THE FRIENDLY CHARACTERISTICS THEY HAD BEFORE THE ONSET OF THE 1970-71 "TUNA WAR". IT CAN

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BE CONFIDENTLY ASSUMED THAT HERVAS WILL RISE TO THE HIGHEST RANKS IN THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, AND BECAUSE HE IS ESSENTIALLY AN ACTIVIST, HIS VIEWS WILL CARRY CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT. HE WOULD MAKE A LIVELY SEMINAR PARTICIPANT, AND CAN BE COUNTED UPON TO EXPRESS HIS VIEWS CONCISELY AND FORTHRIGHTLY. HIS EXPOSURE TO A SEMINAR ON THE MAKING OF U.S. FOREIGN POLICY WILL UNQUESTIONABLY PRODUCE A THOUGHTFUL REACTION FROM HIM IN WHICH

HE CONSIDERS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HIS OWN COUNTRY'S INTERESTS AND THOSE OF THE U.S. ONE CAN ASSUME HIS QUESTIONS WILL BE INCISIVE AND PROVOCATIVE, AND WILL CONTRIBUTE IN A HIGHLY POSITIVE FASHION TO A SEMINAR SUCH AS THIS. HERVAS'S COMPREHENSION OF ENGLISH IS GOOD.

6. COMPLETE BIO-DATA ON THE LAST TWO CANDIDATES WILL BE SENT IMMEDIATELY UPON CU/ARA APPROVAL.

7. VISA ELIGIBILITY ON THE CANDIDATES IN PROCESS.

DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT.
BREWSTER

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